

DECISION NOTICE FOR PROPOSED EDEN BRIDGE FAS STREAMBANK STABILIZATION

FWP REGION FOUR 6400 GIANT SPRINGS ROAD GREAT FALLS, MT 59405

Description of Proposed Action:

The proposed alternative carefully slopes the bank and prepares a key trench which helps secure the rock, even under constant river action. The large boulders are specifically placed in the trench and fitted together like a puzzle, which limits movement and the ability of the river to eat around the holdings. This alternative is more costly in the short term than Alternative C, but is perhaps less costly than having to repeat stabilization projects or losing significant real estate over the long term. This method of bank stabilization is a common technique for long-term bank stabilization. This alternative would be implemented by private contractor complying with standard MFWP requirements.

Finding of No Significant Impact:

Based on the analysis in the EA, I find the project as proposed to be the preferred alternative. This alternative will protect the Eden Bridge FAS site from streambank erosion which is currently washing away the parking lot at the FAS site. This alternative should stabilize the streambank and protect the site from erosion for future use.

Two letters with comments from the public in regard to the proposed project was received during the comment period. As a result of comments from the first letter received, I made a few minor changes to the draft EA site map of the area and part of the EA checklist. The changes to the draft EA will be accepted as the final EA. Two pages are enclosed with this letter which shows the changes made. A second letter was received regarding cultural comments. A copy of the cultural site report wrote by Dori Passmann on December 27,1999 confirms how this project site is free of cultural resources.

I have reviewed the draft EA and applicable laws, regulations and policies and have determined that this action will not have a significant effect on the human environment. Therefore, an environmental impact statement will not be prepared.

The final environmental assessment may be viewed at or obtained from The Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks, Region 4, Great Falls, MT. Please direct requests and questions to: Eden Bridge FAS Bank Stabilization Project: Attention Joe O'Neill P.O. Box 6610 Great Falls, MT 59405, (406) 454-5840.

Signed_

Mike Aderhold - Region 4 Supervisor

Date

Cascade